Inadequacy of Staff in the reservation offices of the Indian Airlines

54. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an inadequacy of staff in various reservation offices of the Indian Airlines leading to a long wait for the passengers;

(b) whether the problem has been aggravated due to failure of the computer system at the Indira Gandhi International Airport; and

(c) if so, what remedial action has been taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. The Central Computer of the computerised system located at Indira Gandhi International Airport has been functioning satisfactorily and has generally recorded an uptime of over 99.91 per cent.

(c) Does not arise.

Carrying of extra passengers by the Indian Airlines

55. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether carrying of extra passengers on regular flights has become a usual practice with the Indian Airlines which is being done in violation of air safety rules; and

(b) if so, what action is being taken by Government to end this practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Whenever any case of carriage of extra passengers on Indian Airlines flight comes to the notice of the Aeronautical authorities, the same is investigated and appropriate action is taken on the basis of the findings to avoid recurrence of such incidents.

Ban on Sex Relations between the Indians and foreign visitors

56. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Council of Medical Research has recently suggested legislation to ban sexual relations between Indians and visitors from abroad so as to check the menace of AIDS from spreading in India;

(b) what action has been taken by Government in the matter;

(c) what is the number of foreign nationals deported from India since 1986 on the apprehension of AIDS, their nationality and other details; and

(d) what is the number of persons declared AIDS patients in India since 1986 and the number of those who died during that period?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI MOTI LAL VORA): (a) and (b) Enactment of legislation to prevent spread of AIDS in the country is a complex issue involving a number of Departments/ Agencies both at the Central and State levels and experts. The issues to be considered are organisational, administrative, legal, financial, social and ethical implications of legislation. Consultations have been started to examine the feasibility of screening persons belonging to the high risk category within the framework of existing laws and enactment of a separate legislation.